

REVISED SYNOPSIS OF THE SPECIES OF ELEODES  
BELONGING TO THE SUBGENUS METABLA-  
PYLIS WITH DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW  
SPECIES (COLEOPTERA)

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The subgenus *Metablapylis* is characterized by both general and genital characters:

*General characters.* Sculpturing comparatively simple. Anterior femora mutic; anterior tibial spurs similar in the sexes; anterior tarsi quite simple beneath, plantar grooves entire, except in *schwarzii*, where the apex of the first joint beneath is noticeably produced, obstructing the groove apically. Middle lobe of the mentum small, lateral lobes fully exposed.

For the satisfactory examination of the tarsal characters the parts should be free of all dirt.

*Genital characters.* These constitute the essential subgeneric differentiation. Specimens cleared and mounted in balsam do not distinctly reveal the surface sculpturing, nor the surface contour on account of the loss of the third dimension. For these characters see the author's Monograph of the Eleodiini, Bull. 63, U. S. Nat. Mus., p. 392. The practical differential diagnosis is to be made from the general characters.

The following is a revised synoptic statement of the species:  
Elytral sculpturing moderately finely muricato-punctate, especially on the sides and apex.

Pronotal disk strongly convex, sides arcuately deflexed, marginal bead not visible from above, or but slightly so.

Form elongate, male usually distinctly narrower than the female.

Luster dull, subopaque to opaque; pronotal disk distinctly but not closely punctate. Oregon, northeastern California, Washington, Nevada, Dakota, Idaho, Nebraska, Kansas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona.....*nigrina* Lec.

Luster bright and shining, form usually more elongate, less closely sculptured. Wyoming.....Subsp. *perlonga* Blais.

Form more robust, size very variable, simulating that of *Melan-  
eleodes*. Washington.....Subsp. *difformis* Blais.

Pronotal disk moderately convex, sides not deflexed, marginal bead visible for entire length from above, densely, closely and distinctly punctate; form moderately robust. Washington.....  
.....*schwarzii* Blais.

Elytral surface perfectly smooth.

Form ovate, moderately depressed in the sexes; body beneath inconspicuously, sparsely pubescent.

Pronotum widest at about apical fourth, apex wider than the base; more robust species. Arizona.....*dissimilis* Blais.

Pronotum subquadrate, widest just in front of the middle; a more delicate species, tibiæ and tarsi very slender. Arizona, Utah .....*delicata* n. sp.

Form subcylindrical, not depressed.

Nigro-piceous, more or less opaque; setæ, spinules, and pubescence of undersurface of body ferruginous, longer (1-1.5 mm.) and erect, especially on the prosternum; female subovate. Nevada .....*nevadensis* Blais.

Color black throughout, luster dull to feebly shining; pubescence inconspicuous. Female subcylindrical and elongate as in the male. Palm Springs, California.....*californica*, n. sp.

### *Eleodes (Metablapylis) delicata* Blaisdell, n. sp.

Form rather slender, oblong-ovate, somewhat fragile, related to *nevadensis* Blais. and *dissimilis* Blais. Color black; legs, antennæ and mouth-parts more or less nigro-piceous. Luster moderately dull and alutaceous. Surface smooth throughout.

Head moderately small, about as long as wide; sides parallel behind the antennæ, slightly prominent at the antennal convexities, thence quite strongly convergent to the obtusely rounded epistomal angles, slightly sinuate, at the oblique sutures; epistomal apex feebly emarginate, sutures more or less obsolete, sometimes feebly impressed; frons feebly convex, slightly but rather broadly impressed between the antennæ along the suture, finely and rather evenly punctate. Eyes not in the least prominent. Antennæ long and slender, extending two or three joints beyond the pronotal base, not incrassate, joints three to seven inclusive elongate, slightly more than twice as long as wide, eighth less so and more triangular, ninth and tenth more rounded, about as long as wide, eleventh obovate and slightly obliquely truncate at apex; joints eight to eleven slightly compressed.

Pronotum subquadrate, widest just before the middle, about as long as wide; base subequal to the apex, truncate in feeble circular arc; sides more or less evenly and moderately arcuate, a little less so toward base, marginal bead feeble, not visible when viewed vertically from above; apical and basal angles obtuse but distinct; disk rather strongly and quite evenly convex, notably arcuately declivous laterally, sparsely, finely and obsoletely punctulate.

Elytra oval, slightly narrowed toward base, the latter quite equal to the pronotal base, less than a third longer than wide, humeri not evident or very small; sides moderately arcuate, apex obtusely but moderately narrowly rounded; disk rather strongly convex from side to side, the latter quite strongly arcuately declivous and somewhat inflexed, central area less convex, sometimes slightly flattened, obliquely declivous apically; striate, striæ not to very slightly

impressed, consisting of small closely placed punctures, those of the outer striæ more or less confused; intervals with a single line of very fine, more or less obsolete punctures.

Under surface of the body finely and more or less obsoletely punctate. Legs slender, the tibiæ notably so, moderate in length.

Male. Usually narrower. Elytra scarcely wider posteriorly; abdomen less convex and noticeably flattened along the median third. Female. Usually broader and more noticeably widened behind. Abdomen moderately convex.

Measurements. Length (types) 13.5-13 mm.; width 4.-5.5 mm. A paratype in the Casey collection, United States National Museum, has a length of 11 mm.; and a width of 3.5 mm.

Holotype, female, No. 2509, and allotype, male, No. 2510, in collection of the California Academy of Sciences.

Type locality. Douglas, Arizona. Five paratypes in the collection of Charles Liebeck, from the type region, taken in August, and from Hurricane, Utah, at an altitude of 3200 feet, on July 3, collected by Warren Knaus. Nine specimens studied.

*Eleodes (Metablapylis) californica* Blaisdell, n. sp.

Form elongate, subcylindrical in both sexes. Color black; trophi and tarsi piceous. Luster dull to feebly shining. Pubescence black and inconspicuous, setæ of the mentum moderately long.

Head as long as wide, widest across the antennal convexities; sides before the antennæ rapidly convergent, sinuate at the oblique suture, epistoma short, truncate at apex, angles obtusely rounded; frons slightly convex, impressions feeble along the epistomal base, punctures moderately fine, dense at the periphery, more widely spaced in the central area. Middle lobe of the mentum obsolete, represented by a small carina. Eyes not in the least prominent. Antennæ long and slender, extending two or three joints beyond the pronotal base, not incrassate; joint three twice as long as eight, joints four to seven elongate, about twice as long as wide, eight subtriangular and a little longer than wide, eight to ten subequal in size, rounded, as long as wide, eleven asymmetrically short ovate, joints eight to eleven slightly compressed.

Pronotum quadrate, quite strongly convex, widest at apical third; apex and base truncate, angles obtuse but distinct; sides broadly and moderately arcuate; less so, straighter and convergent, towards base; disk very finely, sparsely and obsoletely punctate; sides quite strongly and arcuately deflexed.

Elytra about three times as long as the prothorax, usually widest at middle, sometimes slightly widest at about apical third; base scarcely wider than the pronotal base; humeri very small, not at all

prominent; base transverse, scutellum very short, transverse; entering but slightly between the elytra; sides subparallel, broadly and less than moderately arcuate, obliquely convergent in apical fourth to apex, the latter rather narrowly rounded; disk strongly convex from side to side, but feebly flattened in the sutural area, rather abruptly and obliquely declivous in about apical fourth, striate, striæ of closely placed, moderate punctures, usually not at all impressed, intervals with a single series of widely spaced and more or less obsolete punctules. Legs moderately long and slender.

Male. Slightly narrower than the female. Elytra slightly widest behind the middle in type, usually widest at the middle. Abdomen slightly convex and flattened along the median third. Female similar in form to the male. Abdomen less than moderately convex.

Measurements (types). Length 6-7 mm.; width 5-5 mm.

Holotype, female, No. 2511, allotype, male, No. 2512, and seven paratypes in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences. Types collected by the late Charles L. Fox, on April 3, 1916.

Type locality. Palm Springs, Riverside County, California. Nine specimens studied. Paratypes collected by E. C. Van Dyke, April 14, 1925; J. O. Martin, May 20, 1916 and January 19, 1917; G. D. Hanna, March 23, 1925.

*Californica* is the only known species of the subgenus *Metablapylis* found west of the Colorado River, in southern California. *Nigrina* enters northeastern California by way of Nevada.

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#### NOTE ON TWO BERYTIDÆ

In a paper entitled "Key to the Nearctic Genera and Species of Berytidæ" (Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., XXVII, 79-92, 1919) Mr. W. L. McAtee establishes a genus *Aknisus* on a new species, *calvus*, and my *Jalysus perclavatus*, which he considers a synonym of *Hoplinus multispinus* Ashmead. He may be perfectly correct in this synonymy, but there has been nothing yet published definitely to substantiate this contention, and until there is I prefer to use a name for which we know definitely the insect to which it is applied. Mr. Ashmead's description cannot be made to fit my species. In this same paper Mr. McAtee has established a new genus and species (*Saurocoris instans*) for the macropterous form of *Acanthophysa echinata* Uhler. The two forms of this species occur together throughout California.—E. P. Van Duzee.